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PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of

Ken UTAGAWA

Application No.: 09/592,285

Filed: June 12, 2000

Docket No.: 106477

For: METHOD FOR PROCESSING IMAGE, RECORDING MEDIUM FOR STORING
IMAGE PROCESSING PROGRAM AND IMAGE PROCESSING APPARATUS

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Technology Center 2600

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Director of the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office
Washington, D. C. 20231

Sir:

Prior to initial examination, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Page 12, line 25 - Page 13, line 13 delete current paragraph and insert therefor:

SD
GC
AI
If the image data are color image data, a similarity judgement can also be performed based upon one type of color information in the color image data. In such a case, a calculation scale can be decreased. Furthermore, if a similarity judgement is performed based upon two types of color information, it is possible to make an accurate judgement with regard to a color boundary at which no difference may manifest based upon one type of color information, to execute correct direction-dependent low-pass filtering processing. In other words, it becomes possible to make an accurate judgement with regard to a location at which it is difficult to judge the image structure, such as a color boundary having a uniform